

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 066392

67

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

66614

DRAFTED BY: EUR/MNHUGHES

APPROVED BY: EUR:MNHUGHES

S/S-O:JHOGANSON

----- 096606

O 252210Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 066392

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 066392 ACTION ROME INFO

LISBON DTD 24 MAR

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 066392

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, VT

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS ON PORTUGAL

REF: ROME 4160

FOR LODGE

1. YOU MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN YOUR TALKS WITH
VATICAN PRINCIPALS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 26.

2. -- WHILE WE ARE AVOIDING ANY DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS AT
THIS TIME, WE ARE CONCERNED OVER THE ADVERSE IMPACT THAT
EVENTS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE ABORTIVE COUP MAY HAVE ON
PROSPECTS FOR MODERATE FORCES IN PORTUGAL AND ON THE REAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 066392

MEANING OF THE ELECTION PROCESS. THE MARCH 18 BANNING OF

THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (PDC) IS INDICATIVE OF ACTIONS WHICH CAUSE US CONCERN.

3. -- THE U.S. HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INVOLVEMENT IN THE ABORTIVE COUP OF MARCH 11.

4. -- OUR INTEREST IN PORTUGAL REMAINS ONE OF ENCOURAGING THE EVOLUTION OF MODERATE FORCES THAT WILL HELP ENSURE THE PRESERVATION OF PORTUGAL'S CLOSE AND TRADITIONAL ASSOCIATION WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND WITH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. WE CONTINUE STRONGLY TO VALUE OUR OWN BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

5. -- WE WELCOME THE GOP'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE ABORTIVE COUP, TO HONOR ALL OF ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND AGREEMENTS.

6. -- SINCE THE APRIL 25, 1974, REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY WELCOMED THE STATED INTENTION OF THE GOP TO HOLD FREE ELECTIONS IN PORTUGAL AND TO PROMOTE THE EVOLUTION OF INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT REFLECTING THE FREELY EXPRESSED WILL OF THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE. WE HAVE NOTED THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO HOLD CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN APRIL.

7. -- WE REGRET ANY DEVELOPMENT, FROM WHATEVER QUARTER, THAT IN ANY WAY SUBVERTS OR NEGATES THE PROSPECT OF TRULY FREE ELECTIONS IN PORTUGAL.

8. -- THE CURRENT REVOLUTIONARY ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN EXPLOITED BY THE RADICAL LEFT, BOTH WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE AFM, TO LABEL THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS AS WELL AS THE PDC AND THE CENTER SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (CDS) AS REACTIONARY ELEMENTS.

9. -- THE COMPLETE OUSTER OF CIVILIANS FROM THE NEW AFM REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL FURTHER STRENGTHENS THE HAND OF THE RADICALS. (WE SHOULD AVOID, HOWEVER, USING THE TERM "LEFTIST DICTATORSHIP.")

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 066392

10. -- THE RAPID-FIRE NATIONALIZATION ACTIONS OF THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS HAVE FURTHER RADICALIZED THE ATMOSPHERE AND RUN THE RISK, IN THE SHORT RUN AT LEAST, OF CRIPPLING THE ECONOMY AT A TIME WHEN IT IS ALREADY IN SERIOUS STRAITS. (THESE GOP ACTIONS, HOWEVER, HAVE IMMENSE POLITICAL APPEAL IN PORTUGAL AND WE SHOULD CAREFULLY AVOID OVERT CRITICISM.)

11. -- WE NONETHELESS CONTINUE TO REGARD THE ELECTIONS

AS OF CRUCIAL SIGNIFICANCE, BECAUSE A REASONABLY STRONG
SHOWING OF THE MODERATE FORCES IN SUCH AN ELECTION MIGHT
IN TIME HAVE A MODERATING IMPACT ON THE AFM, WHICH NOW
CLEARLY INTENDS TO REMAIN IN CONTROL OF THINGS.

12. -- IN THIS SITUATION WE BELIEVE PORTUGAL'S WESTERN
EUROPEAN ALLIES AND FRIENDS HAVE A SPECIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN
COUNSELING MODERATION THROUGH THEIR OWN OFFICIAL AND
POLITICAL ASSOCIATION AND CONTACTS WITH THE GOP AND
POLITICAL GROUPS IN PORTUGAL. KISSINGER UNQTE KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE066392
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/MNHUGHES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750104-0428
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750317/aaaaapkh.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ROME 4160
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TALKING POINTS ON PORTUGAL
TAGS: PFOR, PO, VT
To: MADRID
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006